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His Majesties  
ANSWER,  
TO THE  
PETITION  
AND

Three VOTES of *Parliament*,

Presented to Him at *York*, May 23. 1642.  
Concerning the disbanding of His  
MAJESTIES Guard.

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*Published together by His Majesties Command.*

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*To the Kings most Excellent Majestie*

The humble Petition of the Lords and Commons  
assembled in Parliament.

**Y** Our Majesties loyall Subjects, the Lords and Commons in this Parliament, do humbly represent unto Your Majestie, that notwithstanding Your frequent professions to Your Parliament, and the Kingdom, & the late expression in Your Answer of the 13 of *May* to the Petition of the County of *York*, that Your desire and intention is onely the preserving of the true Protestant Profession, the Laws of the Land, the Libertie of Your people, and the Peace of the Kingdom; Neverthelesse, with great grief, we perceive by Your Speech of the 12 of *May*, and the Paper printed in Your Majesties Name in the forme of a Proclamation, bearing date the 14 of *May*, and other evidences, that under colour of raising a Guard to secure Your Person, of which Guard (considering the fidelity and care of Your Parliament) there can be no use, Your Majesty doth command Troops both of Horse and Foot to assemble at *York*, the very beginnings whereof were apprehended by the Inhabitants of that County to be an affrightment and disturbance of Your Majesties liege people, as appears by their Petition presented to Your Majestie, the continuing and in-

crease of which Forces is to Your Parliament; and must needs be a just cause of great Jealousie and danger to your whole Kingdom.

Therefore We do humbly beseech Your Majesty to disband all such forces as by Your command are assembled, and relying for Your security (as Your Predecessors have done) upon the Laws and the affections of Your people, You will be pleased to desist from any further designs of this nature, contenting Your Self with Your usual and ordinary Guards; otherwise we shall hold our selves bound in duty towards God, and the trust reposed in us by the people, and the fundamentall Lawes and Constitutions of this Kingdome, to imploy our care and utmost power to secure the Parliament, and to preserve the peace and quiet of the Kingdome.

Die





Die Veneris 20. Maii. 1642.

*Resolved upon the Question.*

**T**Hat it appears, that the King (seduced by wicked Counsell) intends to make War against the Parliament, who (in all their consultations and actions) have proposed no other end unto themselves, but the care of His Kingdoms, and the performance of all duty and loyalty to His Person;

1.

*Resolved upon the Question.*

**T**Hat whensoever the King maketh War upon the Parliament, it is a breach of the trust reposed in Him by His people, contrary to His Oath, and tending to the dissolution of this Government.

2.

*Resolved upon the Question.*

**T**Hat whosoever shall serve or assist him in such Wars, are Traitors by the Fundamentall Lawes of this Kingdom, and have been so adjudged by two Acts of Parliament, and ought to suffer as Traitors.

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1. H. 4.

*John Brown Clericus Parliam.*

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# His Majesties ANSWER.

**W**E cannot but extreemly wonder, that the causelle Jealousies concerning Us, raised and somented by a Malignant Partie in this Kingdom, which desires nothing more then to snatch to themselves particular advantages out of a generall combustion (which means of advantage shall never be ministred to them by Our fault or seeking) should not onely be able to seduce a weak Partie in this Our Kingdom, but seem to finde so much countenance even from both Houses, as that Our raising of a Guard (without further Designe then for the safety of Our Person, an Action so Legall, in Manner so peaceable, upon Causes so evident and necessary) should not onely be looked upon and petitioned against by them, as a cause of Jealousie,  
but

but declared to be the raising of a War against them, contrary to Our former professions of Our care of Religion and Law. And we no lesse wonder, that this Action of Ours should be said (in a very large expression) to be apprehended by the Inhabitants of this Countrey, as an Affrightment and disturbance to Our People, having been as well received here, as it is every where to be justified, and (we speak now of the generall, not of a few seduced particulars) assisted and sped by this Countrey, with that loyall Affection and Alacrity, as is a most excellent Example set to the rest of the Kingdom, of the care of Our safetie upon all occasions, and shall never be forgotten by us, nor we hope by Our Posterity; but shall be ever paid to them, in that which is the proper expression of a Princes gratitude, a perpetuall vigilant care to govern them justly, and to preserve the onely Rule by which they can be so governed, The Law of the Land: And we are confident, that if you were your selves eye witnesses, ye would so see the contrary, as to give little present thanks, and hereafter little credit to your Informers; and if you have no better intelligence of the inclinations and affections of the rest of the Kingdom, certainly the mindes of Our People (which to some ends and purposes you represent) are but ill represented unto you.

Have you so many Moneths together not contented your selves to relie for Security (as your Predecessours have done) upon the Affection of the People, but by your own single authority raised to  
your



your selves a Guard ( and that sometimes of no ordinary numbers, and in no ordinary way ) and could not all those Piques and Protestations, that Army on one side, and that Mobie on the other, perswade us to command you to disband your forces, and to content your selves with your ordinary ( that is, no ) Guard, or work us in an opinion that you appeared to leaue war against us, or had any further Designe? And is it possible that the same persons should be so apt to suspect and condemn us, who have been so unapt in the same matter ( upon much more ground ) to tax or suspect them? This is Our Case, Notwithstanding the care and fidelity of Our Parliament, Our fort is kept by Armed men against us, Our proper goods first detained from us, and then contrary to Our Command, by strong hand, offered to be carried away ( in which at once all Our property as a private Person, all Our Authority as a King, are wrested from us ) And yet for us to secure Our self in a Legall way ( that S<sup>r</sup> John Hotham may not by the same forces, or by more raised by pretence of the same authority ( for they say he raiseth daily some, and we know it no new thing for him to pretend Orders that he cannot shew ) continue the war that he hath leaui'd against us, and as well imprison Our Person, as detain Our goods, and as well shut us up in York, as shut us out of Hull ) is said to be esteemed a cause of great Jealousie to the Parliament, a raising war against them, and of danger to the whole Kingdom: while these Injustices and Indignities offered  
to



to Us are countenanced by them who ought to be most forward in Our Vindication and their punishment, in obseruation of their Oaths and of the trust reposed in them by the people, and to avoid the dissolution of the present Government: Upon which Case the whole world is to judge, whether we had not reason, not wholly to rely upon the Care and Fidelity of Our Parliament, being so strangely blinded by Malignant spirits, as not to perceiue Our injuries, but to take some care of Our Own Person, and in Order to that, to make use of that Authority which the Laws declare to be in Us: And whether this Petition, with such a threatening Conclusion, accompanied with more threatening Votes, gives Us not cause rather to increase then diminish Our Guards, especially since we saw before the Petition a Printed Paper dated the 17. of May, underwritten Hen. Elling Cler. Domus Com. commanding (in the name of both Lords and Commons) the Sheriffs of all Our Counties, to raise the Power of all those Our Counties to suppress such of Our Subjects, as by any of Our Commands shall be drawn together, and put (as that Paper calls it) in a Posture of Warre, charging Our Officers and Subjects to assist them in the performance thereof at their Perils: For though we cannot suspect that this Paper (or any bare Votes not grounded upon Law or Reason, or quotations of repealed Statutes) should have any ill influence upon Our good People, who know their duties too well, not to know that to take up Arms against those, who upon a Legall Command,

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that

( that is, Ours ) come together to a most Legall end, ( that is, Our securitie and preservation ) were to leaue war against vs, and who appear in this County ( and we are confident they are so thorowout the Kingdom ) no lesse satisfied with the Legality, Conueniency, and Necessity of these Our Guards, and no lesse sensible of the indignities and dangers ( which makes it necessary ) then we are Our Self; yet if that Paper be really the Act of both Houses, we cannot look upon it but as the highest of scorn and indignities, first to issue Commands of force against vs, and after those have appeared uselesse, to offer by Petition to perswade vs to that which that force should have effected.

we conclude this Answer to your Petition with Our counsell to you, That you joyn with vs in exacting satisfaction for that unparaleld, and yet unpunished Action of Sir John Hothams, And that you command Our fort and Goods to be returned to Our own hands, That you lay down all pretences ( under pretence of necessity, or declaring what is Law ) to make Laws without vs, and, by consequence, but a Cypher of vs, That you declare effectually against Tumults, and call in such Pamphlets ( punishing the Authors and Publishers of them ) as seditiously endeavour to disable vs from protecting Our people, by weakening, by false aspersions, and new false doctrines, Our Authority with them, and their Confidence in vs: The particulars of which Tumults and Pamphlets, we would ( long since ) have taken care that

Our.

Our learned Councell should have been enabled to  
 give in evidence, if, upon Our former Offer, we  
 had received any return of encouragement from  
 you in it. And if you do this, you then ( and hardly  
 till then ) will perswade the world, that you have  
 discharged your duty to God, The trust reposed in  
 you by the people, and the Fundamentall Laws  
 and Constitutions of the Kingdom, And imploied  
 your care and utmost power to secure the Parlia-  
 ment, ( for we are still a part of the Parliament,  
 and shall be till this well founded Monarchy be  
 turned to a Democracy ) And to preserve the Peace  
 and Quiet of the Kingdom, which together with  
 the defence of the Protestant Profession, The Laws  
 of the Land, and Our own just Prerogative, ( as  
 a part of, and a defence to those Laws ) have been  
 the main end, which in Our Consultations and  
 Actions we proposed to Our Self.

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